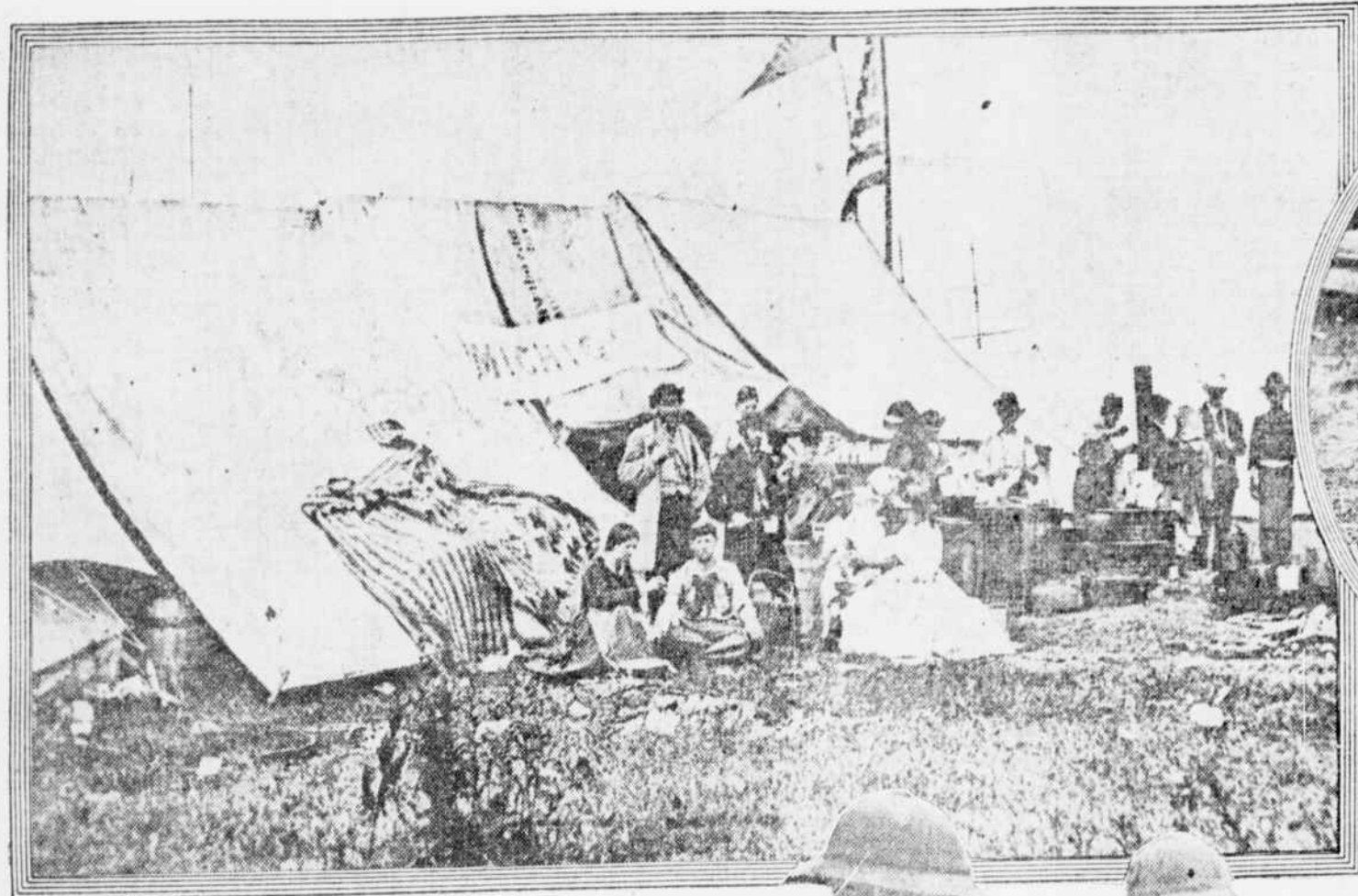
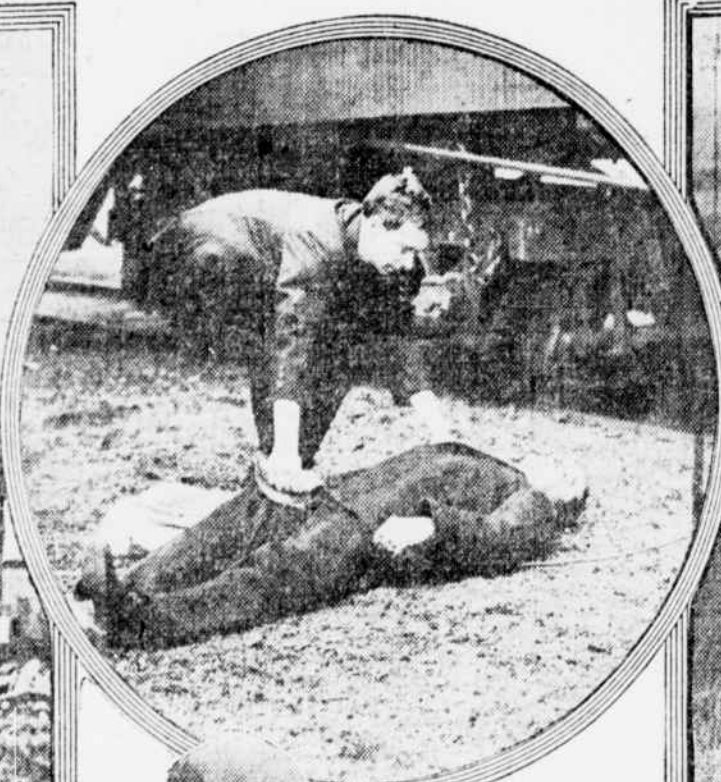


Few Realize What a Huge Humanitarian Machine the American Red Cross Is



"Relief Association" Camp During Civil War.



First Aid Demonstration of Handling Live Wire Victim.



Red Cross Nurses in the Field.

Here Are Some Details of the Tremendous Work Done for the Relief of the Stricken by the Organization Which Will Act as Host at Washington Next Month to Its Confreres of All Nations.

RED CROSS and war. Formerly one automatically suggested the other. The battlefield, then Red Cross. Instinctively one realized that its tender offices followed conflict as the night the day. Say Red Cross, and one was sure to think exclusively of marching heroes, valiant achievement, inspiring death.

But now, for the first time on the Western Hemisphere, the congress of the International Society of the Red Cross, called only once in five years, will meet in Washington between May 7 and 17, when it is believed that the exposition of what the society has done in this country in the time of peace will be a revelation to many foreign delegates.

European countries hear so many rumors of wars, when not themselves engaged in testing the utility of the aeroplane in actual conflict, that perhaps it should not be surprising for the wartime activities of the Red Cross to appeal most to foreign nations.

Italy and Turkey fighting on land and sea, China willing to let her various components fight it out among themselves exclusively on land, the Kaiser's virile machine forever at an alleged antagonistic angle, Portugal learning how to exist without a King—and sitting up for meals, thank you—Spain falling a cartoonist who makes Alfonso's legs too thin—it is not so easy to choose a foreign country where there is pretty sure to be enough peace to last out the ten days for the Red Cross conference. Mexico has her Diaz, Madero, her Orozco, and not enough peace to last over Sunday.

As for this country, we may, as some one suggests, be unhappy with strikes, socialism and suffragettes. It is a combination of S. S. R. that probably is not any too good for a people's blood. But, at the worst, we are merely unhappy. Our war days, Mr. Carnegie says, are over. And May is a balmy time in the capital. The political battles will not be at their best or worst, according to the point of view, until later. La Follette's pompadour may struggle for place against Clark's daisy ditty in the popular esteem, but there will be no fatalities. We are for peace as a people.

There is, therefore, every reason why the United States will welcome the Red Cross delegates, anxious to inquire into the activities of the American society in alleviating the consequences of the perils of peace. There will be a lot of war talk, too. It will be necessary, absolutely so, because countries now financing wars will send representatives to the congress, and there are many matters in need of clarification.

THE WAR IN MEXICO.

Begin at home, and although we have no battles of our own scheduled, what can the American Red Cross do for the alleviation of human suffering in time of war in Mexico?

When the territory bordering on Texas was the scene of action there was a lively little fight just over the line. An American physician felt he should do what he could for the wounded, and so he flew a Red Cross flag from his automobile and dashed over the border. He was fired upon.

As a matter of fact, he was not working under Red Cross orders. But the point is that the physician might have been killed while he was doing Red Cross work under the flag of the American Red Cross.

It is an important matter. To the war-torn physician it is a paramount issue. Any one in that physician's shoes might be excused for emphasizing the desirability of settling at Washington the question whether or not that flag was, under all the conditions, entitled to respect. Each nation that signed the Geneva Convention wants to know.

The incident also calls attention to the peculiarly complicated status of the Red Cross of a neutral state in time of civil war in an adjoining country. The right of Red Cross societies of belligerents to buy supplies through neutral societies (which in turn purchase their supplies largely by way of their respective army medical corps) is an open one, even in the case of wars between nations. In the case of a nation at war with itself the answer is even more in doubt. Both China and Mexico have lately furnished food for reflection along these lines. And the presentation of Uncle Sam's views by Joshua R. Clark, Jr., solicitor for the Department of State, is likely to be followed with close attention.

PROTECTING THE INSIGNIA.

In line with the discussion of "uniforms of identification for personnel," which the incident quoted certainly suggests, is one asked for by both Hungarian and Russian organizations and by the international committee, of the methods for protecting in each country the insignia and name of the Red Cross. Almost equally interesting is the question proposed by the French Red Cross as to the status of the organization in relation to prisoners of war. That is, as to whether the national Red Cross of one country could in case of war be allowed to penetrate into the prisons of the enemy and care for its own prisoners of war confined there. Obviously, if a Frenchman were prisoner within English, German or Italian lines members of the French Red Cross could do more to bring him comfort and succor than members of the Italian, German or English Red Cross. But could this be allowed, or would it be stretching

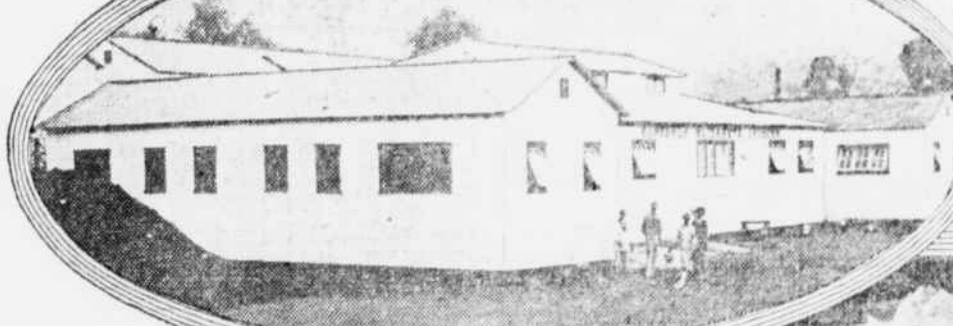
to foolhardiness the theory of "the neutrality of the sick wagons?"

What, also, can the French or German, Russian or English organizations do in the same righteous cause when Italy and Turkey are so aggressively overlooking the possibilities of "The Haguer?" Turkey, you will remember, is a signatory of the convention of Geneva, although it uses the crescent instead of the cross as the emblem of its organization.

First, then, let us salute some of the visitors who will come from foreign shores, let us glance for a moment at the tentative programme, inquire the way to the hall where the congress will convene, and then we can scarcely refrain from applauding heartily the work the American Society has in mind to do in the future, and has so nobly performed.

Congress has granted for a temporary exposition building the use of a site in Potomac Park, fronting in 18th street, directly opposite the Pan-American building, and it is here that the international conference will be held. It has further appropriated for use by the American Red Cross \$2000 to be used toward the expenses of the conference.

From all quarters of the globe will come men and women who have made a life study of alleviating the inevitable sufferings of war, of averting some of the terrible tragedies of peace, as well as of nursing



Hospital Built By the Americans in Messina After the Earthquake of 1908.

latering to the sufferings they have been unable to avert. Some will represent their governments as such, and some will represent the national Red Cross organizations. Invitations to the governments to take part in these conferences are sent by way of the State Department, while notice to the Red Cross organizations comes direct from the American Red Cross. Governments usually send members of their respective army medical corps to represent them. In co-operation with perhaps one or two of their diplomatic representatives already on the spot. Not infrequently they ask delegates appointed to represent the national Red Cross organizations to represent their countries officially as well. Siam, for instance, which has a tender infant of a Red Cross organization, is sending a native physician to this conference, and will be further represented by members of its legation in Washington. Japan is sending a strong delegation, including three Japanese women, said to be the first women ever appointed to represent the Japanese government in a foreign land in any capacity.

A TENTATIVE PROGRAMME.

Months ago a tentative programme was sent out for the consideration of the various national organizations which will take part in the conference. It was printed in French and English, as is customary with such announcements. But it is announced officially that the conference will have three languages—French, English and Spanish—the last in deference to the facts that this is the first conference ever held in the Western Hemisphere and that Spanish is the language of all of South and Central America. Practically French will be the language of this as it has been of all preceding conferences, as it is the language of diplomacy, the language that will be understood by most of the conferees.

Along with the tentative programme was sent out an earnest invitation to the conferees to suggest subjects for discussion, subjects in which they were interested, and which their hosts might have overlooked. After a preliminary diffidence, such suggestions came in quite freely, and week by week the programme is changing in conformity with them. As it now stands it includes many matters of international importance, and some which recent events have made of peculiar interest right here in America.

One morning will be devoted to an account of the Red Cross war on epidemics and disease. Of the great campaign against tuberculosis (which in America has been brought home by the holiday sale of Red Cross stamps), Professor Pannwitz, of the German Red Cross Society, will speak. And, by the way, one of the Herr Professor's associates in the German delegation to the conference, who has frequently visited here and is well known in New York, will be Simon Bernheimer, Berlin, brother of Charles L. Bernheimer, of the New York Park Commission and



English Red Cross Nurses Bringing in Wounded.



Miss Ella B. King and Japanese Nurse Tending a Wounded Soldier in the Hiroshima Hospital.

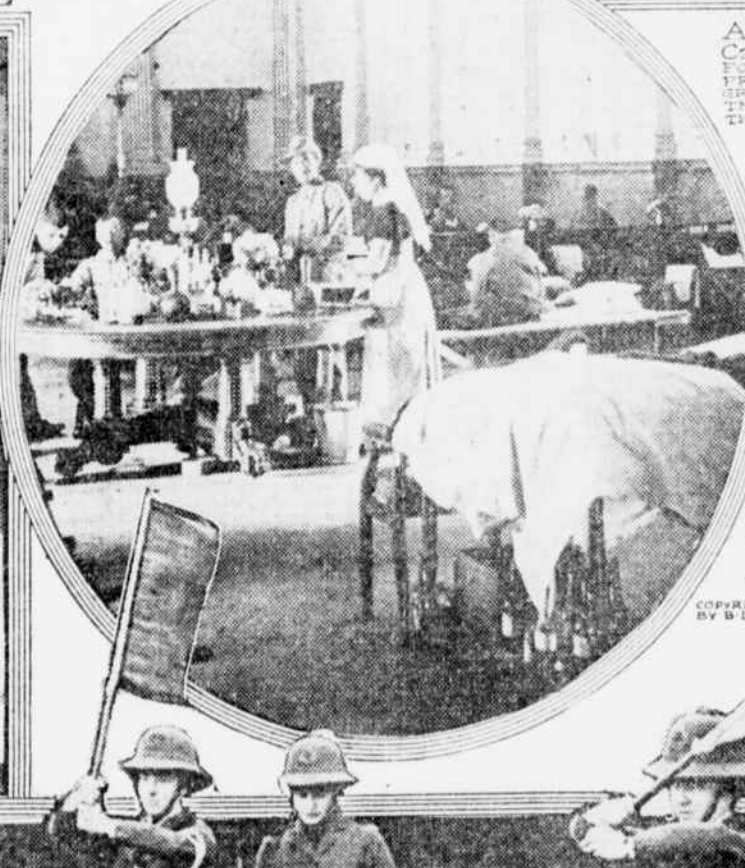
of the Chamber of Commerce, advocate of arbitration between labor and capital, leading merchant and public spirited citizen.

Dr. Richard P. Strong's account of the pneumonic plague in Manchuria is expected to be rather a feature of the conference. Dr. Strong and his assistant, Dr. Teague, loaned from the army medical corps by Uncle Sam, but financed by the Red Cross, fought a splendid fight against that terrible epidemic. It was their reports that attracted most attention at the international conference called at Moukden a year ago by the Chinese government and participated in by scientists from many lands.

During the conference, as during each of the quinquennial international conferences, the prizes in the Marie Feodorovna competition will be awarded—a first prize of 6,000 rubles, second prizes of 3,000 and third prizes of 1,000. (A ruble being approximately 50 cents, these figures must be halved if preceded by the dollar sign.) These are paid from the income of a fund of 100,000 rubles established by the Emperor Dowager of Russia, who figures as the "august protectress of the Russian Red Cross Society." The inventions submitted in competition for these prizes will have a space to themselves in the general Red Cross exposition to be held during the conference. The competition is limited to inventions bearing on Red Cross work in time of war.

One can scarcely realize what a tremendous machine the American Red Cross is. It is a great philanthropic trust, existing in its present form by virtue of a charter granted by Congress on January 5, 1905. It is governed by a central committee of eighteen members, six appointed by the President and twelve elected at the annual meeting in December. Working under this central committee at national headquarters at Washington are the national relief board, the war relief board and the international relief board.

President Taft is president of the national relief organization—not that the



American Red Cross First Aid Car. THIS CAR HAS A COMPLETE EQUIPMENT FOR FIRST AID INSTRUCTION AND IS ALSO PREPARED TO ASSIST IN RESCUE WORK AFTER SHIPWRECKS, EARTHQUAKES, ETC. THE CAR WAS DONATED TO THE RED CROSS BY THE TOLLMAN COMPANY.

men, a drill by the United States Naval Hospital Corps, and to mine explosion rescue work and first aid illustration. Organized originally in protest against the terrible and, to a degree, at least, unnecessary sufferings of the battlefield, the international organization acquiesced willingly in the "American amendment," whereby the societies are authorized to extend their activities to the relief of the terrible suffering entailed in some of the great catastrophes of peace.

Along the line of this American amendment the American Red Cross has gone

Where Sick and Wounded British Soldiers Were Cared For at Bloemfontein, South Africa.



English Red Cross Manoeuvres.

President of the United States is ex-officio head of the Red Cross here, but that W. H. Taft has been personally interested in its work for years, and has consented to remain its president since he became President of the United States. Robert W. de Forest, of New York, is vice-president. Of the central committee George W. Davis, major general, U. S. A. (retired), is chairman.

Miss Mabel Boardman heads the national relief board, under whose supervision all the relief work in this country is conducted. Miss Boardman is a remarkable woman. She is the daughter of a wealthy

family, all her affiliations are those of wealth. Her home is one of the handsomest on Dupont Circle in Washington, her social position unassailable. She is regarded as about the most intimate friend of the Tafts. Her sister a few years ago married Senator Murray Crane, of Massachusetts. She is a splendid business woman and absolutely devoted to the Red Cross. She is to be found at her War Department office every morning attending to Red Cross business as regularly as if she drew a salary for her work and was dependent on it for her bread and butter. She was decorated by the Italian government for

much further than any of the European societies. It has developed its peace activities to an extent undreamed of when the society was organized. And, aside from the great benefit to the victims of a catastrophe of trained help in an emergency, there is also the training which the experience gives the organization for possible wartime work. The calamities of peace certainly help the society to "keep its hand in" in readiness for war.

One of the most interesting Red Cross peace activities is the nation-wide campaign

Continued on seventh page.